

## Tundra Times to Hold Its Banquet Oct. 3 in Fairbanks as Planned

The board of directors of Tundra Times at last Friday's monthly meeting voted to hold its annual promotional and anniversary banquet in Fairbanks as planned.

The crux of the discussion by the board was the recent decision of the Alaska Federation of Natives board of directors to hold the annual AFN convention in Anchorage immediately prior to the National Congress of American Indians annual convention that will be held in Anchorage

this year on October 18, and which will last for a week.

For the past two years, the AFN annual convention has been held in conjunction with the Tundra Times banquet which falls on the first Saturday in October. The date this year is October 3.

The Times' board, however, reserved the possibility of having a second banquet in Anchorage if such an event proves feasible.

Last year, the newspaper's board voted that each political year the banquet be held in Fairbanks and the off year in some other city in Alaska. Under this decision last year's banquet was held in Anchorage which proved to be highly successful.

The AFN board's decision to hold the federation convention in Anchorage this year was based on the fact that it would probably prove to be too costly for many of the native people to go to two events in the same month.

The site of this year's Times

banquet has not been firmed up as yet but it is conjectured that it might be held at the Civic Center at Alaskaland. The theme of the banquet will be "Communications."

A special committee is in the process of picking out the winner of a number of submissions on the banquet theme conducted in a contest form earlier by the newspaper. The winning theme will receive two free tickets to the banquet.

The search for a nationally known figure to keynote the banquet is in progress. The initial banquet four years ago was keynoted by Joe Rothstein, the then executive editor of the Anchorage Daily News.

Two years ago, Stewart L. Udall, then Secretary of the Interior, was the keynoter. He announced the "deep freeze" on lands in Alaska at that banquet.

In Anchorage last October, Vincent Price, the famous actor, was the keynoter.

## Sue Miller

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for construction of "public highways over public lands, not reserved for public uses."

The villages contend that their protest areas are not "public lands, not reserved for public uses" within the meaning of the code.

Also, in his letter Miller said that the land freeze order was modified last Jan. 7 to allow for the construction of an oil pipeline and for whatever is necessary for the construction and maintenance of the oil pipeline system.

On this point, the villages contend that the modification of the land freeze "serves only to permit the Secretary of the Interior to issue various rights of way and permits."

The villages pointed out that the Secretary has not issued such rights-of-way and, in fact, with respect to Stevens Village has been enjoined from doing so.

The Stevens Village action came April 1 as the result of a suit filed by Stevens Village, Bettles, Rampart, Minto and Allakaket in the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. seeking to bar Secretary Hickel from issuing construction permits for both the haul road and the pipeline.

The road and the 800-mile pipeline cross land claimed by the five villages.

In the case, Judge George L. Hart, Jr. issued a preliminary injunction which will prevent the Secretary from issuing such permits over land claimed by Stevens Village until the matter comes to trial.

According to David Wolf, attorney also on this case, the judge did not go into the issue of Rampart, Bettles, and Allakaket. The proposed pipeline and road do not cross land claimed by Minto at this time.

The attorneys for Hickel, Wolf added, have 10 days or until April 13 to ask the judge to reconsider the injunction. If they do not, he added, the injunction holds until the time of trial, which is not known.

Wolf stressed that in this case, the attorneys for the villages were in no way connected with the conservationists who have also filed suit against Hickel, seeking to bar him from issuing permits for the pipeline and haul road.

"Our clients," he said "simply want compensation for land rights they are giving up. The issue involved is that of property rights, not conservation."

With the judge's ruling in this case and the other points mentioned previously, the villages in their suit against the Governor have requested a "temporary restraining order and a preliminary and permanent injunction" prohibiting the defendants and all persons participating with them from taking any further action to construct or to authorize construction for the haul road.

Our life is frittered away by detail... Simplify, simplify. —THOREAU

## Pollock: Give Village Natives Title to 1 Acre

Rep. Howard W. Pollock of Alaska came out in support of a cash settlement of \$500 million and 14 million acres of land for investment purposes as a possible solution to the native land claims controversy.

On the matter of a 2 per cent royalty on gas and oil leases, he sought a "middle ground" and suggested that the federal government might contribute 20 per cent of its revenues from the outer continental shelf of Alaska for a period of 20 years or until a total of \$500 million is contributed.

In addition to the 14 million acres of land for investment purposes, the congressman would allow natives living in villages to have title to as much as one acre of land for their own use.

He would also allow native communities to select lands for their own expansion and would make adjacent lands available to these communities for subsistence hunting.

Meanwhile, the Senate Interior Committee is thought to be reaching the final stage of its deliberations on a land claims bill.

## Seattle Times Publicizes Chief Isaac

The plight of the Athabascan Indians at Tanacross received broad coverage this week as Stanton Patty reported their story in the Seattle Times, circulation of about two million.

The "Indians in the area," he wrote, "are losing their ancestral lands—even their graveyards—to a state that seems to have no feelings. The United States government has done nothing to stop it."

When recently in Alaska to gather information, Parry said he hoped that his story would in some way help the Indians.

Led by Chief Andrew Issac, the Indians feel that their land is being taken away from them by the State. They originally thought their land was protected by a claim filed in 1950, but later found that the claim had been lost.

With the land freeze now on, all of their recent applications for land claims have been rejected because the Bureau of Land Management is processing none of the applications until the freeze is lifted. It seems that the BLM is keeping only a file copy of the rejection order, and the Indians

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lion acres of those lands, on condition of being compensated in cash and royalties for the balance. While this figure is considerably below what is now needed by 37,400 Natives living in rural areas, with the money they are asking for they hope to develop the smaller portion of land more intensely, and change their way of life sufficiently to manage successfully on smaller space.

## Favor S.2650—

## Tlingit Leaders Hit Borbridge

ANCHORAGE—Two Anchorage Tlingit Indians sharply criticized recent statements of John Borbridge, Jr., president and general manager of the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska, for what they called "the real possibility of his misrepresenting the Tlingit and Haida people."

The two, Byron Mallott and Robert Willard, referred to an April 2 front-page article of the Anchorage Daily News, in which Borbridge stated that he supported a Tlingit-Haida appropriations measure sponsored by Senator Ted Stevens.

Borbridge said Monday "he would accept some bureaucratic regulation over his tribes' finances in return for prompt release of a two-year-old Government debt of \$7 million."

"We favor S. 2650 which authorizes release of the \$7 million to the Tlingits and Haidas with no Governmental regulation (and was introduced by Senator Mike Gravel, D-Alaska)" Mallott and Willard said. "However, the ultimate decision rightfully belongs to the Tlingit and Haida people, represented by the Central council which comprises over 50 delegates from 18 communities."

The Stevens bill (S.2628) provides for release of the 1968 Court of Claims Judgment Award, expenditures of which are subject to the approval of the Secretary of Interior, a traditional Congressional method of dealing with Indian tribal settlements.

"I understand that removal of the Secretarial overview would be a departure from the traditional way of doing things," Willard said. "So is a legislative settlement of Native rights to the

land."

He reiterated that "the ultimate decision belongs to the Tlingit and Haida people" as a matter of right, and stated that he would put the question to the full Central Council when it meets in Anchorage in mid-April and that he would abide by the will of the majority.

Mallott said, "It is unfortunate that this statement is made necessary; however, Mr. Borbridge has seen fit to establish Tlingit-Haida policy by public pronouncement, thereby necessitating a public response to an issue that should have really been decided with calm deliberation by the Tlingit-Haida people prior to any public statement."

"Indian people nationwide have consistently pointed to provisions for secretarial control in Indian programs as singularly abhorrent. For the Tlingit-Haida people to accept such a provision without significant protest simply for the sake of expediency would be revealing of a real lack of the courage of conviction."

"This cannot be the case. I cannot believe that to legitimately protest such a provision would endanger passage of the appropriations bill; and to blandly state that the Tlingit-Haida people will accept secretarial control, although in principle we oppose it, just doesn't set well with me."

Willard has written to Senator George S. McGovern, D-S.Dak., Chairman of the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs, and before whose Committee the Tlingit and Haida distribution bills are pending, asking a delay of Committee action so the Central Council can have an opportunity to express its feeling.

## Barrow Liquor Flap...

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the attorney general.

The legal question, he said, centers on whether a city can own a license and then sit in judgment on others applying for a license—a situation which can put the city in a monopoly position.

He added that he hoped the attorney general would cover the entire controversy in his decision and rule not only on whether the city can own a license but also on whether it can own all the licenses allowed in the community.

Barrow city council member, Eben Hopson said he felt that if the ruling is against the city, the residents will vote "dry" the first chance they get.

According to another spokesman, a number of people voted "wet" only after receiving written assurances from the ABC Board that profits from the sale of liquor could be used for the benefit of the community and that all applications from private individuals could be denied.

## Caribou Migration...

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reported to be flocking around the Point Lay airport some 45 miles southwest of Icy Cape.

The native association cautioned Hickel that "a definite unrest among the people seems to be evident."

If the people do not hear from the secretary within a week, Hopson said, a situation that is being treated lightly at this stage might become much more serious.

"We would like to think that nothing will happen as far as

demonstrations but we have no direct control over the situation."

The association leaders said that they did not know what companies were responsible for the activity blocking the migration, but that they have written for the information.

Hopson said that if Hickel would respond in a positive manner by sending someone up to the North Slope to make an observation, "we will be ready to cooperate."